GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1141
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2002
MAIZE CULTIVATION
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope to increase maize cultivation in certain parts of the country, particularly Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the approximate areas brought under maize cultivation so far State-wise;

(c) whether any assistance from the Union Government has been extended to farmers in the States to increase maize cultivation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to boost maize cultivation in the country in general and Orissa in particular?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Maize has a big potential in the country including the State of Orissa. The area, production & productivity of maize in the country have increased from 61.40 lakh hectares, 88.80 lakh tonnes & 1,446 Kgs./ha. respectively during 1994- 95 to 65.57 lakh hectares, 120.70 lakh tonnes and 1841 Kgs./ha. respectively during 2000-01. The total area brought under maize cultivation, so far in the country, is 65.57 lakh hectares (upto 2000-01, the final data available). The State-wise details of area covered under maize cultivation in the country are placed at Annexure-I.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme entitled `Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP)` is in implementation, at present, in all the maize potential districts in 26 States, including Orissa in the country, with the objective to increase the production and productivity of maize. Under AMDP, assistance is provided to the farmers for adoption of latest technologies through Front Line Demonstrations on maize through ICAR (100% assistance by GOI) and Field Demonstrations & Demonstrations on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) on maize and use of improved farm implements. The assistance is routed through State Governments at 75:25 sharing basis between Government of India & State Governments. Besides, assistance is also given for production of good quality seeds and officers` & farmers` trainings.

The details of total financial assistance given by Union Government to the State Governments including Orissa and funds released to State Government of Orissa under Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP), to increase maize production in the country, during last four years are as under:

(Rs in lakhs)

S.No.	Year	Total funds released to State Govts.	Funds released to Orissa Govt.
1.	1998-99	415.00	63.00
2.	1999-2000	435.00	35.18
3.	2000-2001	475.00	2.00
4.	2001-2002	410.00	0.00+

+ No release due to considerable unspent balances lying with the State Govt.

of Orissa as on 01.04.2001.

While implementing AMDP, to boost maize production in the country, emphasis is also being given on popularization/adoption of the following:

i) Use of good quality seeds of hybrid and High Yielding Varieties (HYVs) of Maize;
ii) Adoption of seed treatment and maintenance of optimum Plant population;
iii) Use of weedicides for effective weeds management;
iv) Use of micro-nutrient like Zinc Sulphate @ 20 kg per hectare;
v) Adoption of better crop management practices, balanced use of fertilizer and irrigations at critical stages;
vi) To bring more areas during Rabi/Summer under irrigated conditions;
vii) Inter-cropping of suitable legumes, oilseeds and vegetables with maize; and
viii) To educate the farmers about better production technology and various uses of maize.

In addition to adopting the above steps, the State Government of Orissa is alsoadopting the seed inocculation with Azotobactor and Phosphate Solubilising Microbes (PSM) while implementing the scheme (AMDP) in 11 districts of the State.

Annexure-I

State-wise & Year-wise details of Area coverage under Maize cultivation during last three years (1998-99 to 2000-2001).

S.No.	State	Area in Lakhs hectares		
		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
1	Andhra Pradesh	3.990	4.520	5.233
2	Arunachal Pra	0.362	0.356	0.354
3	Assam	0.198	0.200	0.202
4	Bihar	7.111	7.369	6.391
5	Jharkhand	0.000	0.000	0.899
6	Goa	0.003	0.002	0.002
7	Gujarat	4.083	3.910	3.997
8	Haryana	0.210	0.200	0.160
9	Himachal Pra	3.050	2.999	2.981
10	Jammu & Kashmir	3.114	3.173	3.302
11	Madhya Pradesh	8.522	9.052	8.171
12	Chhattisgarh	0.000	0.000	0.634
13	Karnataka	5.124	6.064	6.690
14	Maharashtra	2.784	2.810	2.625
15	Manipur	0.030	0.043	0.036
16	Meghalaya	0.172	0.166	0.169
17	Mizoram	0.087	0.055	0.066
18	Nagaland	0.320	0.320	0.313
19	Orissa Earas	0.510	0.540	0.540
20	Punjab	1.540	1.630	1.640
21	Rajasthan	9.510	9.336	9.692
22	Sikkim	0.394	0.394	0.399
23	Tamil Nadu	0.557	1.158	1.198
24	Tripura	0.023	0.013	0.016
25	Uttar Pradesh	9.958	9.560	9.139
26	Uttaranchal	0.000	0.000	0.365
27	West bengal	0.385	0.351	0.353
28	Total	62.037	64.221	65.567